

SHARPENING EDGED TOOLS.—The following is taken from a German scientific manual for the benefit of our mechanics and agricultural laborers: "It has long been known that the simplest method of sharpening a razor is to put it for half an hour in water, to which has been added one-twentieth of its weight of muriatic or sulphuric acid, then lightly wipe it off, and after a few hours set it on a hone. The acid here supplies the place of a whetstone, by corroding the whole surface uniformly, so that nothing further but a smooth polish is necessary. The process never injures good blades, while badly hardened ones are frequently improved by it, although the cause of such improvement remains unexplained. Of late, this process has been applied to many other cutting implements. The workman, at the beginning of his noon spell, or when he leaves off in the evening, moistens the blades of his tools with water acidified as above, the cost of which is almost nothing. This saves the consumption of time and labor in whetting, which, moreover, speedily wears out the blades. The mode of sharpening here indicated would be found especially advantageous for sickles and scythes."

Receipt for Making Bread.—To make the most sweet, white, light, and best bread, without the use of yeast, take a tablespoonful of powdered saleratus, dissolve it in half a teaspoonful of warm water, rub it well through three pounds of flour, and then mix it up with buttermilk till it is quite soft. Place it in pans and let it bake rather slowly about an hour and a half. A small slice of butter mingled with the dough, will be found an improvement. This mode of making bread is particularly worthy of the attention of the farmers, "gude wives." Don't fail to try it.

Political.

THE KANSAS TROUBLES.

SPECIAL MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT.

The following is the special message of President Pierce, communicated to both Houses of Congress on Thursday, 24 Jan.: *To the Senate and House of Representatives:*

Circumstances have occurred to disturb the course of governmental organization in the Territory of Kansas, and produce there a condition of things which renders it incumbent on me to call your attention to the subject, and urgently to recommend the adoption by you of such measures of legislation as the grave exigencies of the case appear to require.

A brief exposition of the circumstances referred to, and of their causes, will be necessary to the full understanding of the recommendations which it is proposed to submit.

The act to organize the Territories of Nebraska and Kansas was a manifestation of the legislative opinion of Congress on two great points of "constitutional" construction; one, that the designation of the boundaries of a new Territory, and provisions for its political organization as a Territory, are measures which, of right, fall within the powers of the general government; and the other, that the inhabitants of any such Territory considered as an inchoate State, are entitled, in the exercise of self-government, to determine what shall be their own domestic institutions, subject only to the constitution and the laws duly enacted by Congress under it, and to the power of the existing States to decide according to the provisions and principles of the Constitution at what time the Territory shall be received as a State into the Union. Such are the great political rights which are solemnly declared and affirmed by that act.

Based upon this theory, the act of Congress defined for each Territory the outlines of republican government, distributing public authority among lawfully-created agents—executive, judicial and legislative—to be appointed either by the general government or by the Territory. The legislative functions were intrusted to a council and a house of representatives duly elected and empowered to enact all the local laws which they might deem essential to their prosperity, happiness and good government. Acting in the same spirit, Congress also defined the persons who were in the first instance to be considered as the people of each Territory—ensuring that every free white male inhabitant of the same above the age of twenty-one years, being an actual resident thereof, and possessing the qualifications hereafter described, should be entitled to vote at the first election, and be eligible to any office within the territory, but that the qualifications of voters and holding office at all subsequent elections should be such as might be prescribed by the legislative assembly; provided, however, that the right of suffrage and of holding office should be exercised only by citizens of the United States, and those who should have declared on oath their intention to become such, and have taken an oath to support the constitution of the United States and the provisions of the act; and provided, further, that no officer, soldier, seaman or marine, or other person in the army or navy of the United States, or attached to troops in their service, should be allowed to vote or hold office in either territory by reason of being on service therein.

Such of the public officers of the Terri-

ties as by the provisions of the act, were to be appointed by the general government, including the governors, were appointed and commissioned in due season; the law having been enacted on the 30th of May, 1854, and the commission of the governor of the Territory of Nebraska being dated on the 2d day of August, 1854; and of the Territory of Kansas on the 29th day of June, 1854.

Among the duties imposed by the act on the governors was that of directing and superintending the political organization of the respective Territories. The governor of Kansas was required to cause a census or enumeration of the inhabitants and qualified voters of the several counties and districts of the Territory, to be taken by such persons and in such mode as he might designate and appoint; to appoint and direct the time and places of holding the first elections, and the manner of conducting them, both as to the persons to superintend such elections and the returns thereof; to declare the number of the members of the council and house of representatives for each county or district; to declare what persons might appear to be duly elected; and to appoint the time and place of the first meeting of the legislative assembly. In substance, the same duties devolved on the governor of Nebraska.

While, by this act, the principle of constitution for each of the Territories was one and the same, and the details of organic legislation regarding both were as nearly as could be identical, and while the Territory of Nebraska was tranquilly and successfully organized in the due course of law, and its first legislative assembly met on the 10th of January, 1855, the organization of Kansas was long delayed, and has been attended with serious difficulties and embarrassments, partly the consequence of local maladministration, and partly of the unjustifiable interference of some of the inhabitants of some of the States foreign by residence, interests, and rights to the Territory.

The governor of the Territory of Kansas, commissioned, as before stated, on the 29th of June, 1854, did not reach the designated seat of his government until the 7th of the ensuing October; and even then failed to make the first step in its legal organization—that of ordering the census or enumeration of its inhabitants—until so late a day that the election of the members of the legislative assembly did not take place until the 30th of March, 1855, nor its meeting until the second of July, 1855. So that, for a year after the Territory was constituted by the act of Congress and the officers to be appointed by the federal Executive had been commissioned, it was without a complete government, without any legislative authority, without local law, and of course without the ordinary guarantees of peace and public order.

In other respects, the governor, instead of exercising constant vigilance and putting forth all his energies to prevent or counteract the tendencies to illegality, which are prone to exist in all imperfectly-organized and newly-associated communities, allowed his attention to be diverted from official obligation by other objects, and himself set an example of the violation of law in the performance of acts which rendered it my duty, in the sequel, to remove him from the office of chief executive magistrate of the Territory.

Before the requisite preparation was accomplished for election of a territorial legislature, an election of delegate to Congress had been held in the Territory on the 29th day of November, 1854, and the delegate took his seat in the House of Representatives without challenge. If arrangements had been perfected by the governor so that the election for members of the legislative assembly might be held in the several precincts at the same time as for delegate to Congress, any question pertaining to the qualification of the persons voting as people of the Territory would have passed necessarily and at once under the supervision of Congress, as the judge of the validity of the return of the delegate, and would have been determined before conflicting passions had become inflamed by time, and before opportunity could have been afforded for systematic interference of the people of individual States.

This interference, in so far as concerns its primary causes and its immediate commencement, was one of the incidents of that pernicious agitation on the subject of the condition of the colored persons held to service in some of the States which has so long disturbed the repose of our country, and excited individuals, otherwise patriotic and law-abiding, to toil with misdirected zeal in the attempt to propagate their social theories by the perversion and abuse of the powers of Congress. The persons and the parties whom the tenor of the act to organize the Territories of Nebraska and Kansas thwarted in the endeavor to impose, through the agency of Congress, their particular views of social organization on the people of the future new States, now perceiving that the policy of leaving the inhabitants of each State to judge for themselves in this respect was ineradicably rooted in the convictions of the people of the Union, then had recourse, in the pursuit of their general object, to the extraordinary measure of propagandist colonization of the Territory of Kansas, to prevent the free and natural action of its inhabitants in its

internal organization, and thus to anticipate or force the determination of that question in this inchoate State.

With such views, associations were organized in some of the States, and their purposes were proclaimed through the press in language extremely irritating and offensive to those of whom the colonists were to become the neighbors. Those designs and acts had the necessary consequence to awaken emotions of intense indignation in States near to the Territory of Kansas, and especially in the adjoining State of Missouri, whose domestic peace was thus the most directly endangered; but they are far from justifying the illegal and reprehensible counter-movements which ensued.

Under these inauspicious circumstances the primary elections for members of the legislative assembly were held in most, if not all, of the precincts at the time and the places, and by the persons designated and appointed by the governor according to law.

Angry accusations that illegal votes had been polled abounded on all sides, and imputations were made both of fraud and violence. But the governor, in the exercise of the power and the discharge of the duty conferred and imposed by law upon him alone, officially received and considered the returns; declared a large majority of the members of the council and the house of representatives "duly elected;" withheld certificates from others because of alleged illegality of votes; appointed a new election to supply the place of the persons not certified; and thus at length, in all the forms of statute, and with his own official authentication, complete legality was given to the first legislative assembly of the Territory.

Those decisions of the returning officers and of the governor are final, except that, by the parliamentary usage of the country applied to the organic law, it may be conceded that each house of the assembly must have been competent to determine, in the last resort, the qualifications and the election of its members. The subject was, by its nature, one appertaining exclusively to the jurisdiction of the local authorities of the Territory. Whatever irregularities may have occurred in the elections, it seems too late now to raise that question. At all events, it is a question as to which, neither now, nor at any previous time, has the least possible legal authority been possessed by the President of the United States. For all present purposes the legislative body, thus constituted and elected, was the legitimate assembly of the Territory.

Accordingly, the governor, by proclamation, convened the assembly thus elected to meet at a place called Pawnee City; the two houses met and were duly organized in ordinary parliamentary form; each sent to, and received from, the governor the official communications usual on such occasions; an elaborate message opening the session was communicated by the governor; and the general business of legislation was entered upon by the legislative assembly.

But, after a few days, the assembly resolved to adjourn to another place in the Territory. A law was accordingly passed, against the consent of the governor, but in due form otherwise, to remove the seat of government temporarily to the "Shawnee Manual-Labor School," (or Mission,) and thither the assembly proceeded. After this, receiving a bill for the establishment of a ferry at the town of Kickapoo, the governor refused to sign it, and, by special message, assigned for reason of refusal, not anything objectionable in the bill itself, nor any pretence of the illegality or incompetency of the assembly as such, but only the fact that the assembly had by its act transferred the seat of government temporarily from Pawnee City to Shawnee Mission. For the same reason he continued to refuse to sign other bills, until, in the course of a few days, he, by official message, communicated to the assembly the fact that he had received notification of the termination of his functions as governor, and that the duties of the office were legally devolved on the secretary of the Territory; thus to the last recognizing the body as a duly-elected and constituted legislative assembly.

It will be perceived that, if any constitutional defect attached to the legislative acts of the assembly, it is not pretended to consist in irregularity of election, or want of qualification of the members, but only in the change of its place of session. However trivial this objection may seem to be, it requires to be considered, because upon it is founded all that superstructure of acts, plainly against law, which now threatens the peace, not only of the Territory of Kansas, but of the Union.

Such an objection to the proceedings of the legislative assembly was of exceptional origin, for the reason that, by the express terms of the organic law, the seat of government of the Territory was "located temporarily at Fort Leavenworth," and yet the governor himself remained there less than two months, and of his own discretion transferred the seat of government to the Shawnee Mission, where it in fact was at the time the assembly were called to meet at Pawnee City. If the governor had any such right to change temporarily the seat of government, still more had the legislative assembly. The objection is of exceptional origin for the further reason that the place indicated by the governor, with-

out having any exclusive claim of preference in itself, was a proposed town site only, which he and others were attempting to locate unlawfully upon land within a military reservation, and for participation in which illegal act the commandant of the post—a superior officer of the army—has been dismissed by sentence of court-martial.

Nor is it easy to see why the legislative assembly might not with propriety pass the territorial act transferring its sittings to the Shawnee Mission. If it could not, that must be on account of some prohibitory or incompatible provision of act of Congress. But no such provision exists. The organic act, as already quoted, says "the seat of government is hereby located temporarily at Fort Leavenworth," and it then provides that certain of the public buildings there "may be occupied and used under the direction of the governor and legislative assembly." These expressions might possibly be construed to imply that when in a previous section of the act it was enacted that "the first legislative assembly shall meet at such place and on such day as the governor shall appoint," the word "place" means place at Fort Leavenworth, not place any where in the Territory. If so, the governor would have been the first to err in this matter, not only in himself having removed the seat of government to the Shawnee Mission, but in again removing it to Pawnee City. If there was any departure from the letter of the law, therefore, it was his in both instances.

But, however this may be, it is most unreasonable to suppose that by the terms of the organic act Congress intended to do implicitly what it has not done expressly—that is, to forbid to the legislative assembly the power to choose any place it might see fit as the temporary seat of its deliberations. That is proved by the significant language of one of the subsequent acts of Congress on the subject, that of March 3, 1855, which, in making appropriation for public buildings of the Territory, enacts that the same shall not be expended "until the legislature of said Territory shall have fixed by law the permanent seat of government." Congress, in these expressions, does not profess to be granting the power to fix the permanent seat, but recognizes the power as one already granted. But how? Undoubtedly by the comprehensive provision of the organic act itself, which declares that "the legislative power of the Territory shall extend to all rightful subjects of legislation consistent with the constitution of the United States and the provisions of this act." If, in view of this act, the legislative assembly had the large power to fix the permanent seat of government at any place in its discretion, of course by the same enactment it had the less and the included power to fix it temporarily.

Nevertheless, the allegation that the acts of the legislative assembly were illegal by reason of this removal of its place of session was brought forward to justify the first great movement in disregard of law within the Territory. One of the acts of the legislative assembly provided for the election of a delegate to the present Congress, and a delegate was elected under that law. But, subsequently to this, a portion of the people of the Territory proceeded without authority of law to elect another delegate.

Following upon this movement was another and more important one of the same general character. Persons confessedly not constituting the body politic, or all the inhabitants, but merely a party of the inhabitants, and without law, have undertaken to summon a convention for the purpose of transforming the Territory into a State, and have framed a constitution, adopted it, and under it elected a governor and other officers, and a representative to Congress.

In extension of these illegal acts, it is alleged that the States of California, Michigan, and others, were self-organized, and, as such, were admitted into the Union without a previous enabling act of Congress. It is true that, while, in a majority of cases, a previous act of Congress has been passed to authorize the Territory to present itself as a State, and that this is deemed the most regular course, yet such an act has not been held to be indispensable, and, in some cases, the Territory has proceeded without it, and has nevertheless been admitted into the Union as a State. It lies with Congress to authorize beforehand, or to confirm afterwards, in its discretion. But in no instance has a State been admitted upon the application of persons acting against authorities duly constituted by act of Congress. In every case it is the people of the Territory, not a party among them, who have the power to form a constitution, and ask for admission as a State. No principle of public law, no practice or precedent under the constitution of the United States, no rule of reason, right, or common sense, confers any such power as that now claimed by a mere party in the Territory. In fact, what has been done is of revolutionary character. It is avowedly so in motive and in aim as respects the local law of the Territory. It will become treasonable insurrection if it reach the length of organized resistance by force to the fundamental or any other federal law, and to the authority of the general government.

In such an event, the path of duty for

the Executive is plain. The constitution requiring him to take care that the laws of the United States be faithfully executed, if they be opposed in the Territory of Kansas, he may and should place at the disposal of the marshal any public force of the United States which happens to be within the jurisdiction, to be used as a portion of the posse comitatus, and, if that do not suffice to maintain order, then he may call forth the militia of one or more States for that object, or employ for the same object any part of the land or naval force of the United States. So, also, if the obstruction be to the laws of the Territory, and it be duly presented to him as a case of insurrection, he may employ for its suppression the militia of any State, or the land or naval force of the United States. And if the Territory be invaded by the citizens of other States, whether for the purpose of deciding elections or for any other, and the local authorities find themselves unable to repel or withstand it, they will be entitled to, and upon the fact being fully ascertained they shall most certainly receive, the aid of the general government.

But it is not the duty of the President of the United States to volunteer interposition by force to preserve the purity of elections either in a State or Territory. To do so would be subversive of public freedom. And whether a law be wise or unwise, just or unjust, is not a question for him to judge. If it be constitutional—that is, if it be the law of the land—it is his duty to cause it to be executed, or to sustain the authorities of any State or Territory in executing it in opposition to all insurrectionary movements.

Our system affords no justification of revolutionary acts; for the constitutional means of relieving the people of unjust administration and laws, by a change of public agents and by appeal, are ample, and more prompt and effective than illegal violence. These constitutional means must be scrupulously guarded—this great prerogative of popular sovereignty sacredly respected.

It is the undoubted right of the peaceable and orderly people of the Territory of Kansas to elect their own legislative body, make their own laws, and regulate their own social institutions, without foreign or domestic molestation. Interference, on the one hand, to procure the abolition or prohibition of slave labor in the Territory, has produced mischievous interference, on the other, for its maintenance of introduction. One wrong begets another. Statements entirely unfounded, or grossly exaggerated, concerning events within the Territory, are sedulously diffused through remote States to feed the flame of sectional animosity there; and the agitators there exert themselves indefatigably in return to encourage and stimulate strife within the Territory.

The inflammatory agitation, of which the present is but a part, has for twenty years produced nothing save unmitigated evil, North and South. But for it the character of the domestic institutions of the future new State would have been a matter of too little interest to the inhabitants of the contiguous States, personally or collectively, to produce among them any political emotion. Climate, soil, production, hopes of rapid advancement and the pursuit of happiness on the part of the settlers themselves with good wishes, but with no interference from without, would have quietly determined the question, which is at this time of such disturbing character.

But we are constrained to turn our attention to the circumstances of embarrassment as they now exist. It is the duty of the people of Kansas to discountenance every act or purpose of resistance to its laws. Above all, the emergency appeals to the citizens of the States, and especially of those contiguous to the Territory, neither by intervention of non-residents in elections, nor by unauthorized military force, to attempt to encroach upon or usurp the authority of the inhabitants of the Territory.

No citizen of our country should permit himself to forget that he is a part of its government, and entitled to be heard in the determination of its policy and its measures, and that, therefore, the highest considerations of personal honor and patriotism require him, to maintain, by whatever of power or influence he may possess, the integrity of the laws of the republic.

Entertaining these views, it will be my imperative duty to exert the whole power of the federal Executive to support public order in the Territory; to vindicate its laws, whether federal or local, against all attempts of organized resistance; and so to protect its people in the establishment of their own institutions, undisturbed by encroachment from without, and in the full enjoyment of the rights of self-government assured to them by the constitution and the organic act of Congress.

Although serious and threatening disturbances in the Territory of Kansas, announced to me by the governor in December last, were speedily quieted without the effusion of blood, and in a satisfactory manner, there is, I regret to say, reason to apprehend that disorders will continue to occur there, with increasing tendency to violence, until some decisive measure be

taken to dispose of the question itself, which constitutes the inducement or occasion of internal agitation and of external interference.

This, it seems to me, can best be accomplished by providing that, when the inhabitants of Kansas may desire it, and shall be of sufficient numbers to constitute a State, a convention of delegates, duly elected by the qualified voters, shall assemble to frame a constitution, and thus to prepare, through regular and lawful means, for its admission into the Union as a State.

I respectfully recommend the enactment of a law to that effect.

I recommend, also, that a special appropriation be made to defray any expense which may become requisite in the execution of the laws or the maintenance of public order in the Territory of Kansas.

FRANKLIN PIERCE.

WASHINGTON, January 24, 1856.

Latest News.

ACQUITTAL OF MR. PARSONS.—The trial of Jas. Parsons, Jr., a citizen of Virginia, at Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania, charged with the several offences of kidnapping, assault and battery, and breach of the peace, was brought to a close on Thursday evening last by the triumphant discharge of the accused, in which result, the judge, the bar, and a large crowd of attentive spectators testified their concurrence in the most marked manner.—Messrs. Faulkner and Tucker, of Virginia, appeared on behalf of Mr. Parsons.—*Baltimore Sun.*

THE NEW MINISTER TO ENGLAND.—It is stated in the Philadelphia papers that the Hon. George M. Dallas has accepted the appointment of Minister to England. The Ledger says:

Mr. Dallas' services whilst minister to Russia, his eminent political position, having filled the second office in the gift of the people, make his appointment at this time, as the successor of Mr. Buchanan, eminently proper. The appointment will receive the approval of our citizens, and command the respect abroad due to the representative of the nation. Our relations with England at this time are peculiar, if not dangerously involved.—The questions at issue require enlarged knowledge, legal ability and practical statesmanship. Mr. Dallas' profession as an eminent lawyer, his public character and political experience, are all so many guarantees that in his hands the international issues so ably discussed by his predecessor will be properly sustained, and the policy and interest of the United States be enforced with energy and discretion.

FIRST TRIP OF THE FIRST LOCOMOTIVE IN AMERICA.—Wm. Wurts, Esq., of Carbondale, Penn., communicates the following paragraph, clipped from an old newspaper to the Carbondale Transcript:

Major Horatio Allan, the engineer of the New York and Erie Railroad, in a speech made during the recent festival occasion, gave the following account of the first trip made by a locomotive on this continent: "When was it? And who awakened its energies and directed its movements? It was in the year 1828, on the banks of the Lackawaxen at the commencement of the railroad connecting the canal of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company, with their coal mines—and he who addresses you was the only one on that locomotive. The circumstances which led to my being alone on the engine were these: The road had been built in the summer, the structure was of hemlock timber, the rails of large dimensions notched on caps placed far apart. The timber had cracked and warped from exposure to the sun. After about three hundred feet of straight line the road crossed the Lackawaxen creek, on trestle work about 30 feet high with a curve 350 to 400 feet radius.

"The impression was very general that this iron monster would either break down the road or it would leave the track at the curve and plunge into the creek. My reply to such apprehensions was that it was too late to consider the probability of such occurrences; there was no other course but to have a trial made of the strange animal, which had been brought here at great expense; but that it was not necessary that more than one should be involved in its fate; that I would take the first ride alone, and the time would come when I should look back to the incident with great interest. As I placed my hand on the throttle valve handle, I was undecided whether I would move slowly or with a fair degree of speed, but believing that the road would prove safe, and preferring, if we did go down, to go handsomely, and without any evidence of timidity, I started with considerable velocity, passed the curve over the creek safely, and was soon out of hearing of the cheers of the vast assemblage. At the end of two or three miles, I reversed the valve, and returned without accident to the place of starting, having thus made the first railroad trip by locomotive on the Western Hemisphere."

Among the names mentioned for the Presidency, is Judge McLean of Ohio.

ADJOURNMENT OF CONGRESS BY THE PRESIDENT.—The question as to the power of the President to adjourn Congress has been broached in several quarters, and we perceive that the Union of yesterday has an article which should admonish the members of the House who have spent so much time in the fruitless effort to organize that if a Speaker is not soon chosen it is not altogether improbable that the President may grant them leave of absence, in order to afford them time for due reflection and calmer deliberation at their respective homes, and among their immediate constituents, who have to a great extent become excessively tired of the farce played at Washington for two months past. The following is the Union's article:

"The idea of an adjournment of Congress by the President was thrown out yesterday by Judge Crawford in the course of a few remarks submitted by him on his resolution to elect a Speaker on the principle on which a President is elected by the House of Representatives—each State having one vote. When the suggestion as to an adjournment by the President was made there was a strong manifestation of approval in the galleries. As the subject has been frequently alluded to in conversation and in our exchange papers, we quote the clause of the constitution on which the President would proceed in the event of his adjourning Congress:

Art. 2 Sec. 3. "He (the President) shall from time to time give to the Congress information of the state of the Union, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient; he may, on extraordinary occasions, convene both houses, or either of them, and in case of disagreement between them, with respect to the time of adjournment, he may adjourn them to such time as he shall think proper," &c.

"It was in discharge of his duty under the first branch of this clause that the President sent in his annual message. If the necessity for adjourning the two houses should arise, he would act under the last branch of the clause above quoted. We hope no such necessity may arise—indeed, we would prefer to see the representatives return voluntarily to their constituents upon a general resignation. In that event, a new house, not under the impracticable influences which now prevent an organization, would be sent back by the people in full time to organize by the first of June."

MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

Mr. Sathorn has reported a bill in the Senate to establish and endow an Agricultural College in the State of Maryland. It provides that when the stockholders shall have secured subscriptions for two thousand shares of twenty-five dollars each to the stock of said college they shall be entitled to draw from the State Treasury the annual sum of \$5,000, which is to be appropriated as a perpetual endowment for the payment of the salaries of professors, &c. The Governor of the State is to be the president, ex-officio, and the president of the Senate the speaker of the House of Delegates, and the Comptroller of the Treasury, for the time being, permanent trustees.

Death of Commodore Morris.

Commodore Charles Morris, senior retired officer of the United States Navy, died on Sunday afternoon, at his residence in Washington. He was in the 72nd year of his age. In the 1799, he entered the Navy, and in the year 1812, for distinguished services, he was promoted to the rank which he held at his death.

We are pleased to learn, that on Wednesday, 23rd. January, the residence of Ex-Lieutenant Governor Leake, near Madison Court House, Va. was entirely destroyed by fire, together with all the furniture and extensive library. Mr. Leake's family barely escaped with their lives. On the day after the accident a subscription of \$900 was raised by the citizens at Madison C. H., to build a dwelling for Mr. Leake.—*Don. Register.*

The Commercial Convention.

Richmond, Jan. 31.—The Commercial Convention in this city has been organized by the appointment of General Tilghman, of Maryland, as President. 220 delegates are present. A resolution was submitted to the effect that notwithstanding the baleful opinions of the North, the Convention expressed their devoted attachment to the Union, and their determination to preserve it.

THE SUGAR CROP.—At a convention of those interested in the sugar trade, held in New Orleans last week, the Hon. J. Moore, president of the meeting, stated that the sugar crop of 1854-'5 consisted of 346,634 hogsheads of sugar, worth \$30 per hogshead, and 577,840 barrels of molasses, worth \$7 20 per barrel. In round figures the value of the sugar was \$14,000,000, and of the molasses \$3,000,000, making in all, say seventeen millions of dollars. He put down the crop of 1855-'6 at 225,000 hogsheads of sugar, worth, say \$18,000,000; and 350,000 barrels of molasses, worth \$4 500,000; making \$22,500,000. The convention adopted resolutions in favor of some other place in Louisiana than New Orleans as a sugar market.

Original Poetry.

FOR THE TIMES.

REMEMBER ME:

O may my feeble pen inscribe
One living thought of thee,
Which may, while my fate betide,
Invoke memory of me.

Yes, though to distant climes you go,
Far, far away from me,
My prayer, as now, will ever be,
That you'll remember me.

Remember me, when infant morn
Awakes and plumes her wings,
And young birds from the rosy lawn
Their music harp attend.

Remember me, when light and free,
Gaily and gay, I roam,
The breath of love, in active glees,
Is sent from heart to heart.

And when you bright and burning orb
Is fading in the sea,
O let one kind, one tender thought
Be cherished then for me.

Even when pale Luna silvers o'er
The earth and sky and sea,
O think of one who loves you dear
And then remember me.

May no dark cloud thy rising sun
Of pleasure e'er obscure,
But bright as beams of early morn,
Thy happiness endure.

And when earth's scenes all fade away,
My angels round thee gather
To hear thee to a bright, bright day
Of joys that last forever.

N. College, ALEXIS.
Hop's Border.

Our Easy Chair.

"Always laugh while you can—it is a cheap
medicine. Mirthfulness is philosophy not well
understood. It is the sunny side of existence."

GREENSBORO, FEB. 2.

Old Maids vs. Young Maids.

There has been an untiring
disposition on the part of most every body,
to speak rightly of old maids and try to make
their inevitable lives still more drear by
constant abuses. Now, we never were of that
class, and are always glad to say a word in
their favor. Whether right or wrong it is
a source of pleasure to find others who
cherish sentiments like ourselves. Imag-
ine then our joy on reading this para-
graph in an exchange—"Say what you
will of old maids, their love is generally
more strong and sincere than that of the
young milk and water creatures, whose
hearts vibrate between the joys of wedlock
and the dissipations of the ball-room. Un-
til the young heart of woman is capable
of setting firmly and exclusively on one
object, her love is like a May shower, which
makes rainbows, but fills no cisterns."

"A Present."

Our fair friends, "S. & G." have placed
under indescribable and lasting obli-
gations for the present they sent us about
Christmas; but, we have been unable to
attempt to return our thanks by the non-
arrival of said present until this week.
And while we regret its delay on the road
we are glad to say it reached us safe and
sound, and was but little impaired by time.
"If you will accept" is a useless appen-
dage when making presents to editors; for
they, above all others, can truly appreciate
such things, especially when they receive
them from ladies. Could you but have
seen the anxiety and gratefulness depicted
on our countenances when we opened the
"box" and carefully examined the contents,
you ne'er would have said "if" If we
could do other than have "a merry Christ-
mas and happy new-year," when it was the
"wish" of two such generous hearts, we
would not deserve it, and nature would be
untrue to itself to allow it.

While liberally distributing the con-
tents to the types (editors ever love the
craft) we found a tiny box, which required
hands as frail as those that wrought it, to
open it without its being injured. It is
needless, therefore, to say our rude hands
left no mark upon it; but, its damage
was doubly repaired, by a glance at the
contents. What dreamy visions floated
before our enraptured eyes! How our
"hearts" beat within our bosoms as we
gazed upon the counterpart of yours, so pure,
so sweet, and so delicate; which, we trust,
may never be marred by sorrow, and never
be given to one, who is not competent to
appreciate its intrinsic worth.

Too Good a Chance to be Lost.

The following is a true copy of a letter re-
ceived at this place some time ago. It was
evidently written for some female, but was
directed to "Box 34," which belonged to a
gentleman. We publish it just as it is,
only withholding the name, and hope the
one for whom it was intended may see it,
and—

Madam Minden Louisiana

I received a letter from Greensboro N. C.
Shedding life that my late advertisement has been
noticed, and that you will please write to
me, and was willing to form an acquaintance
with some accomplished gentleman.

I am well pleased with your letter and I hope
that I shall have the pleasure of reading an-
other from you.

I shall now endeavor to recommend my self and
give you some descriptions—I consider my self
a poor man but not poverty stricken I have
plenty enough with my own labor to comfort
myself and my mother & sister. I have

the manners and are handsome enough if that is
what you want to connect with, my character is
unblemished; I have not a good Education
which you will find out from this letter I never
lived in a Town or City—I have been raised in
the Country on a Farm, Farming is my Occu-
pation and I have it and raising stock.

I am a Orphan, my Father departed August
25, 1854, left his wife and 6 Children, three of
them are married and one of them died, which
leaves only two, my self and sister are not mar-
ried, I have supported my self Mother and sister
for several yrs and have made property. I now
think that I could handsomely support one more
and will if she can be found with a loving dispo-
sition noble qualities of heart, fine manners and
accomplished Lady would render me most hap-
py, I like industry not that I would like to see a
partner of mine busily employed in daily labor
and heavy drudgery, I should like to avoid that.
I am 22 yrs of age, blue Eyes, Mosaic colored
hair, six feet two or three inches high. I
weigh 152 lbs.

I am not selfish nor ill tempered nor I don't en-
vise a thing that I am jealous.
You say that you would be glad if I would for-
ward you my degenerate type and that you would
return yours, I am sorry to say that I have
not at this time, nor there is not any degen-
erate art in my little Town at this time then
they will be in a few days and I will have one
taken and sent to you, I should be very glad
that you would send yours as soon as you get
this letter.

I wish to know if you are a native born North
Carolinian and of what descent you are from,
how would you like to live in the Western
Country, and what kind of a life would you like
to live Married or Single & have you ever be-
en married, would you like to see a man who
was married and had a wife and children, and
from sickness and had luck wear to lose all of
his wealth and had to work as a common laborer
to call upon his wife to Cook wash & sew, could
you endure that.

You know the pleasures and misers are mixed
and will be met with in marriage, and any one
that cannot get their own consent to put up with
what ever may come good or bad, ought to be
before married Write as soon as you receive
this and give me your name in full, —

When are girls apt to catch fire? When
they are surrounded by sparks.

Why are your nose and chin always at
variance? Because words constantly pass
between them.

The grave is an ugly hole in the ground
which lovers and poets wish they were in
but take uncommon pains to keep out of.

THE GREATEST TRIAL OF PATIENCE.—A
stammering lawyer examining a stutter-
ing witness in the presence of a deaf judge.

HOW TO RISE EARLY.—Live next door
to a house where Cochon China fowls are
kept.—Punch

Ohio marriages are now called "limited
partnerships," in consequence of the pliancy
of the Buckeye divorce bill.

Mrs. Hollyhook thinks it "rather queer"
that the falling of a little quicksilver in a
glass tube should make the weather so
awful cold.

"Mother," said an inquisitive urchin,
a few days since, "would you have been
any relation to me if father had never
married you?"

"Boy, why don't you go to school?"
"Cause, sir, daddy's afraid if I learn
everything now, I shan't have anything
to learn ven I come to go to the academy."

A little friend of mine being asked by her
mother, after she had said the Lord's Prayer,
what she supposed was the meaning of
Amen, said: "I guess it means 'Good
bye, Lord!'"

One evening as Jonathan was leaving
Sally she intimated to him that another
visit would not be unwelcome, by saying,
"I shall be at home next Sunday night."

"Soshall I, by golly," was his gallant reply.

An individual was arrested the other
day in Cincinnati, endeavoring to pick a
man's pocket. He said he was not used to
the business, and was just trying to get
his hand in.

Be always frank and true; spurn every
sort of affectation and disguise. Have the
courage to confess your ignorance and
awkwardness. Confine your faults to but
few.

A lady of experience contends that a
kiss on the forehead denotes reverence of
intellect; a kiss on the cheek, that the
donor is impressed with the beauty of the
kissed one; but that a kiss imprinted on the
lips shows love.

"Have you the 'Exile of Siberia' here?"
asked a lady a few days since, of a clerk
in a book store. "No, ma'am," was the
answer; "we ha'n't got no eggs ile, but
we've got a prime article of bar's ile—I
suppose that will do just as well?"

MORAL BEAUTY.—The heart can put on
clashes which no beauty of known things,
nor imagination of the unknown can aspire
to emulate. Virtue shines in native colors,
purer and brighter than pearl or diamond
or prism can reflect. Arabian gardens in
their bloom can exhale no such sweetness
as charity diffuses. Benevolence is God-
like, and he who does most good to his
fellow-man is the master of masters, and
has learned the art of arts. Enrich and
enoble the universe as you will, it is

only a fit temple for the heart that loves
truth with a supreme love. Inanimate
nature excites wonder, knowledge kindles
admiration; but love enraptures the soul.
Scientific truth is marvelous, but moral
truth is Divine; and whoever breathes its
air, and walks by its light has found the
lost paradise. For him a new heaven and
a new earth have already been created.—
His home is the sanctuary of God, the holy
of holies.—Horace Mann.

To seize opportunity by the forelock is
a familiar piece of advice: We lately saw,
in an old book of wisdom, the fact upon
which it is founded, viz.—that "Op-
portunity has long hair in front and short
hair behind." Too many fancy that they
have a cue, but find out their mistake when they
try to catch it.

"Pompey, why is a journey round dis-
world like a cat's tail?" "Well I don't
adventure say any semblance twixt the two
cases!" "Well den, I spee I'll have to tell
you—because it an' fur to end ob it!"
"Well, den, spose by some unaccountable
sarkumstance de cat's tail should axidently
get singed?" "Why, in dat case, it
wouldn't be so fur!"

LOOK UP.—Look up, shouted the captain
of a ship to his boy, as he grew dizzy while
gazing down from the top-mast. Look up!
The boy looked up, and returned in safety.
Man—woman, look up, and you will suc-
ceed. Never look down and despair.
Leave dangers unrequited for and push on.
If you falter, you lose. Look up!

WHAT IS MARRIAGE?—It is a Mutual
Life Insurance Society, for nothing tends
to abbreviate existence so much as unbel-
somed singleness. It is a Temperance So-
ciety, for it tends to keep men sober. It is
an employment Society, for it makes all
hands industrious. It is a Savings Bank,
for it makes men thrifty. It is one of
"twenty ways to make a fortune." It is a
specific for many ills, far superior to Indian
Vegetable Preparations. In fact, Marriage
is an intense happiness-promoting institu-
tion which we fear is rapidly going out of
fashion.

J. D. CUMMINGS. C. W. STYRON.
Commission and Forwarding
MERCHANTS,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
August. 18ms.

TO COMMON SCHOOL COMMITTEES.
By an act of the last Legislature the time of
holding elections for Committee men, was
changed to the first Saturday in April, the
Committee then chosen, to commence their
term of office, on the first Monday in May fol-
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tinue until others are chosen.

E. W. OGBURN, Chn.
Religious, Scientific, Standard, prose
and Poetical Works in General Literature;
Law Books, Miscellaneous, Albums, Music and
Writing Portfolios, Writing Desks, Music and
Musical Instruments, Stationery, Fancy Ar-
ticles, &c.
Greensboro, N. C.
Market Street, second square from the court
house.

NEW BOOKS—JUST RECEIVED.—Rose
Clark, Fanny Fern, Good Time Company,
Minnie Life, A Basket of Chips; The Home
Gamer; Lloyd's Steamboat Directory and
Disasters on the Western Waters; Napoleon
at St. Helena; American Almanac and Re-
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sanna Albin; A Life with Christ; White-
ley's Good and Evil Angels; Whiteley's Future
State. For sale by E. W. OGBURN.
Jan. 23, 1856.

Cabinet Furniture,
MADE AND SOLD BY
PETER THURSTON,
WEST STREET GREENSBORO, N. C.

WHO keeps constantly on hand, and makes
to order, Marble Top Centre and Pier
Tables; splendid Ladies' Dressing Bureaus and
Work Tables, with Marble or Mahogany tops;
Secretaries and Book Cases of all kinds; bu-
reau an assortment of every price and kind;
Fine Mahogany Rocking Chairs with
spring seats; Sofas, Wardrobes, Tables, Stands,
&c.
All made as good and solid as low as North-
ern work.
Pine, Birch, and Walnut Lumber,—and
Country Produce at market prices,—taken in
exchange for furniture. 1-4f.

S. W. WESTBROOKS,
Proprietor of the Guilford Pomological
Gardens and Nurseries.

WOULD respectfully call the attention of
our Southern citizens to his select col-
lection of native and acclimated varieties of
FRUIT TREES, embracing some 40,000 trees
of the following varieties, viz: Apple, Peach,
Pear, Plum, Apricot, Cherry, Nectarine, Al-
mond; also, a choice assortment of Grapes,
Raspberries, Strawberries, &c., &c.
All orders, accompanied with the cash, will
receive prompt attention and the trees neatly
packed and directed to any part of the country.
P. S.—Persons wishing Ornamental Trees
can be supplied.
January, 1856. 2-4f

GREENSBORO
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T. M. JONES, Pres't. 1-4f.

T. C. & B. G. WORTH,
COMMISSION & FORWARDING
MERCHANTS.
Wilmington, N. C. 1-4f.

JOB PRINTING.

Having just established a Printing Office in
Greensboro, with

AND FASHIONABLE
JOB TYPE,
Selected with great care, to suit the times and
please the taste of our people, we re-
spectfully call attention to
the same and solicit
A TRIAL.

ORDERS FOR
PAMPHLETS,
HANDBILLS,
CARDS,
LABELS,
on FOR

Any other kind of Work,
Required by the business Community,
will be executed with
Neatness, Correctness, Dispatch
AND
PUNCTUALITY.
TIMES OFFICE.
Market Street, Greensboro, N. C.
Jan. 1, 1856.

The Times:
An Independent and Literary
JOURNAL,
Devoted to News, Internal Improvements,
Education, Agriculture, Manufacture,
Commerce & The Markets.

WE know that the interests of the People
of our State demand such a paper, and
believing that one free from the political strifes
and quarrels of the day, devoted to such topics,
will be the kind they desire, we confidently en-
ter upon this enterprise with the assurance of
meriting and meeting their approbation and
support. Our object is to make the Times the
mirror of the State, in which all can see their
true interests held up and encouraged.

INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS.
To this subject we expect to devote as much
space as a full statement of the various op-
erations will require; for as our works of im-
provement advance, so do all the other interests
of the State.

EDUCATION.
It is a source of regret to all interested in
the educational interests of our State, (and who
is not?) that our papers are so much devoted
to party politics, &c., that this great cause has
been too much neglected; we propose, there-
fore, to devote to this subject, a portion of our
space. We will foster and carefully note the
advancement of Education, not only in the
higher schools, but also in our Common Schools.
AGRICULTURE, MANUFACTURE AND COM-
MERCE.

At this stage of our history, are commanding
the attention of all our good State and money-
loving citizens. Therefore, the Markets will
be reported with care, and all items, calculated
to throw light on either of these inseparable
branches of industry, will be carefully gleaned
and inserted every week.

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SIGN OF THE SKELETON WAGON.

SOUTHERN CARRIAGE
REPOSITORY.

THE subscriber begs leave to inform the Mer-
chants and Planters, that he has opened a Re-
pository for the sale of Carriages, Buggies,
Harnesses, &c., at No. 26 Beekman Street, run-
ning through to 13 Spruce Street—entrance on
Elster Street.

The main door, (185 feet in length), affords
ample room for keeping always on hand, a large
and complete assortment of every description
and variety.

Having learned the trade in the Factory of
his father, he is practically familiar with every
branch of the business, and is therefore
enabled to oversee orders for any kind of work
entrusted to him, and superintend every stage
of its manufacture.

His long residence in the South and West,
and intimate knowledge of every section, al-
lows him to select the most durable and before-
hand, and Messrs. Frothingham, Newell & Co.,
give him many advantages in the selections
required for the different parts of the country.

Also, an acquaintance with the character of
Work, Draft, Track, Height of Wheels, quality
and size of Springs and Axles necessary for the
particular localities.

Particular attention paid to special orders,
either through merchants or to the subscriber
direct, and all prices guaranteed to be as low as
the work can possibly be furnished, and which
will be equal, in every respect, to that of the
very best and oldest city or country establish-
ments.

26 Beekman Street is within a few doors of
the Park, on the South-East side, across from
the Astor House, and in a line from Park Place,
Murray, Warren and Chamber Streets, near the
Brick Church, Lovejoy's and Clinton Hotels.

Having convenient office accommodations,
and papers from the Southern Cities and Towns,
he trusts that he may have the pleasure of a
call from his friends, and from those who will
do him the favor to examine his assortment,
and being the only establishment adapted to the
Southern Trade, in the lower part of the
City, he respectfully solicits a share of patron-
age.

He begs to refer those unacquainted with
him, to any of the Jobbing Houses in New York
City, engaged in the Southern or Western
Trade.

Great care will be taken in packing and en-
gaging Freight, Insurance, &c. A discount al-
lowed to the trade.

Respectfully, Your obedient Servant,
N. B. Wm. L. McDONALD, A.D.
referring to the Merchants of Greensboro.
New York, January, 1856. 6-2m

Normal College.
RANDOLPH COUNTY, N. C.

THIS Institution is situated four miles from
"High Point," on the North Carolina
Rail Road, about one mile from the Western
Plank Road, and eighteen, from Greensboro.
The buildings which are now finished consist of
an elegant brick edifice, three stories high, and
of ample dimensions, well finished and furnish-
ed, together with extensive boarding arrange-
ments both public and private. The Apparatus,
made by Chamberland and Kitchie, of Boston,
is of the very best character; the Museum and
all other appliances properly belonging to a
College, are such as the spirit of the age de-
mands. The extent, thoroughness and finish of
Instruction are suited to the dignity of an en-
tirely State and Federal University, and to the
wisdom of a large board of Trustees, headed
by his Excellency the Governor, John A. Gil-
mer, Hon. J. C. Dobbin, &c. The Collegiate
years is divided into three Terms of fourteen
weeks each, a holiday of two weeks is given at
the end of each term, and about the fifth of
April, but students from a distance are not ex-
pected to return home till the Summer vacation.

The location is of easy access by rail and plank
roads, within two days drive of the finest mount-
ain scenery in the South, and is itself in a fine
rolling country of first rate water and cheap
firing. The entire expense varies from about
\$21 to \$40 per term, or from \$93 to \$120 dollars
per annum. All money must be placed in the
hands of the President, and if any pocket mon-
ey is to be allowed, parents should give precise
instructions as to the amount. Money sufficient
to pay the tuition for one term (\$1 per term) and to
purchase books must be deposited in advance,
and all other expenses are due at the end of the
Term and must be promptly settled. Books can
be obtained at the College, but clothing should
always be furnished from home. All communi-
cations should be directed to "Normal College,
N. C." Catalogues can be obtained by applica-
tion to the President. The next Term will be-
gin on the 12th, of September.

August 1855. 1-4m.
CARPETS, OIL-CLOTHS, &c.
AT LOW PRICES FOR CASH!

SEB. E. L. EVATT,
Nos. 444 and 446 Pearl-St. (near Chatham)
NEW YORK.

HAS now in store, and is constantly receiv-
ing well-selected Stock of Carpets, Oil-
Cloths, &c., to which he invites public attention,
believing that an examination of both quality
and price, will prove satisfactory to Merchants
and to Purchasers generally, who buy for Cash.
His Stock consists of *Rick Velvet Tapestry* and
Brussels Carpets in *New Designs*; *Superior Eng-
lish and American 3 Plg. and Ingrain Carpets*;
Comprising many New Patterns, made expres-
sly for first class trade.—Also.

Twilled and Plain Venetian Hall and Stair Car-
pets.
Oil-Cloths, in widths from 2 to 24 feet in vari-
ous qualities.
Rich Mosaic, Tinted and Common Hearth Rugs
and Door-Mats of different sorts.
Table and Piano of Choice Patterns.
14, 5-6 and 6-4 Plaid and Plain Matings.
Window Shades of Desirable Styles.
Stair Coverings, Stair-Rolls, and all other ar-
ticles usually kept in Carpet Stores.

HE IS ALSO AGENT FOR SELLING,
Carhart & Nye's Power Loom Three-ply and
Ingrain Carpets, as well as Barber's Auburn
Prison-made Brussels 3-ply. Ingrain and Venetian
carpets and Rugs.
All which will be handsomely represented to pur-
chasers, and sold at fair prices. 1-8m,
June 30, 1855.

GREENSBORO
Classical School.

Taught by
CHARLES W. HOLBROOK, A. M.

THE Spring Session will commence on Wed-
nesday morning January 9th at 9 o'clock
—at which time classes will be formed, and
scholars of any age admitted.

It is very desirable that all should be present
at the opening of the school, so that a proper
classification may be made.

TERMS, as follows, viz: Classical De-
partment \$21. English \$13, payable always
in advance.
January, 1856. 2-3m

M. C. FREEMAN,
WITH
ABBOTT, JOHNS & CO.,
IMPORTERS AND JOBBERS OF
STAPLE AND FANCY
SILK GOODS,
No. 153 Market Street, Philadelphia.
1856. 2-1y

VALENTINES.—A large assortment
embracing almost every variety in quality
and price, with envelopes to suit, just received
and for sale at the Book Store of
Jan. 23, 1856. E. W. OGBURN.

The British Periodicals and the Far- mer's Guide.

GREAT REDUCTION IN THE PRICE OF
THE LATTER PUBLICATION.

L. SCOTT & CO., NEW YORK, continue to
publish the following leading British Periodi-
cals, viz:

The London Quarterly (Conservative).
The Edinburgh Review (Whig).
The North British Review (Free Church).
The Westminster Review (Liberal).

Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine (Tory).
THE great and important events—Religious,
Political, and Military—now agitating the
nations of the Old World, give to these Publi-
cations an interest and value they never before
possessed. They occupy a middle ground be-
tween the hastily written news-items, crude
speculations, and flying rumors of the news-
paper, and the ponderous Tome of the historian,
written long after the living interest in the facts
he records shall have passed away. The pro-
gress of the War in the East occupies a large
space in their pages. Every movement is closely
criticized, whether of friend or foe, and all
short-comings fearlessly pointed out. The let-
ters from the Crimea and from the Baltic in
Blackwood's Magazine, from two of its most
popular contributors, give a more intelligible
and reliable account of the movements of the
great belligerents than can elsewhere be found.

These Periodicals also represent the three
great political parties of Great Britain—Whig,
Tory, and Radical,—but politics form only one
feature of their character. As Organs of the
most profound writers on Science, Literature,
Morality, and Religion, they stand, as they ever
have stood, unrivalled in the world of letters,
being considered indispensable to the scholar
and professional man, while to the intelligent
reader of every class they furnish a more cor-
rect and satisfactory record of the current liter-
ature of the day, throughout the world, than
can be possibly obtained from any other source.

EARLY COPIES.
The receipt of Advance Sheets from the British
publishers give additional value to these
Reports, especially during the present excit-
ing state of European affairs, inasmuch as they
can now be placed in the hands of subscribers
about as soon as the original editions.

TERMS. Per ann.